

Attorney Docket No.: 3269/8

REMARKS

The above amendment is hereby submitted for the Examiner's consideration to comply with objections or requirement of form expressly set forth in the Office Action, and to better place the present Application in condition for allowance or appeal, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a).

Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-10 and 16-18 are pending, with claims 1, 16, and 18 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8 are amended. New claim 18 is added. Claims 11-15 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicants reserve the right to present the cancelled claims in a continuing application. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all outstanding objections and rejections.

In the Office Action, claims 1-10, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,289,462 to McNabb *et al.* ("McNabb"). Paper No. 20051219, page 3. Although Applicants respectfully disagree, this rejection is moot in light of the above amendment, which emphasizes other distinctions between McNabb and the pending claims. For example, McNabb does not disclose "from the simulated execution, building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions," as recited in independent claims 1 and 16. Claims 2-9 and 17 depend directly or indirectly from one of the independent claims 1 or 16. Therefore, these dependent claims are patentable over McNabb for at least the reasons stated above, in addition to the particular features recited in the

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dependent claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the standing rejections, and allowance of the pending claims.

New independent claim 18 has been added and recites features similar to independent claims 1 and 16. Therefore, claim 18 is patentable over McNabb for at least the reasons stated above. Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claim 18.

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4270.

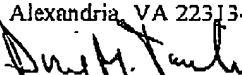
Date: June 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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I hereby certify that the correspondence attached herewith is being transmitted by facsimile (571) 273-8300, Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450:


Diane M. Torniali

June 21, 2006
Date

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